Government of India is also implementing a Centrally sponsored "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) in the country from 1st April, 2004 to increase production and productivity of these crops.

Benefit of agriculture to American companies

†1208. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to extend the benefit of agriculture to American companies following an agreement between India and America; and

(b) the details of loss likely to be incurred on Indian farmers due to this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) In Indo-US knowledge Initiative on Agriculture, which is under active consideration, there is no proposal to extend benefit of agriculture to American Companies.

(b) Does not arise.

Private sector participation in Indo-US knowledge Initiative

1209. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are many private sector representatives in the Board of Indo-US Knowledge Initiative on Agricultural Research and Education;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the members of the board, as on today;

(c) the purpose of above board and the details of initiatives made in the first meeting of the above board;

(d) whether the initial initiative is mainly funded for research in transgenic and bio-technology; and

(e) if so, the details of funding to the board including the source of fund?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.